



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent and Trademark Office

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND ISSUE FEE DUE

TM02/0312

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	TOTAL CLAIMS	EXAMINER AND GROUP ART UNIT	DATE MAILED
07/228,909	01/11/99	029	KANOF, P	2164 03/12/01
First Name Applicant	KOENIG, 35 USC 154(b) term ext. = 0 Days.			

TITLE OF INVENTION  
TRADING SYSTEM FOR FIXED-VALUE CONTRACTS

ATTY'S DOCKET NO.	CLASS-SUBCLASS	BATCH NO.	APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	FEE DUE	DATE DUE
2 98/24	705-037.000	D22	UTILITY	YES	\$620.00	06/12/01

**THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.**

**THE ISSUE FEE MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.**

**HOW TO RESPOND TO THIS NOTICE:**

**I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.**

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

- A. If the status is changed, pay twice the amount of the FEE DUE shown above and notify the Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or
- B. If the status is the same, pay the FEE DUE shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

- A. Pay FEE DUE shown above, or
- B. File verified statement of Small Entity Status before, or with, payment of 1/2 the FEE DUE shown above.

**II. Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned to the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) with your ISSUE FEE. Even if the ISSUE FEE has already been paid by charge to deposit account, Part B Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the ISSUE FEE to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.**

**III. All communications regarding this application must give application number and batch number.**

Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Box ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.**

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/228,909

Applicant(s)

Kohls

Examiner

Pedro R. Kanof

Group Art Unit

2765



All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course.

☒ This communication is responsive to 11/29/00

☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-26 and 28-30

☐ The drawings filed on \_\_\_\_\_ are acceptable.

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some\* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) \_\_\_\_\_

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE to comply with the requirements noted below is set to EXPIRE **THREE MONTHS** FROM THE "DATE MAILED" of this Office action. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

☐ Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPLICATION, PTO-152, which discloses that the oath or declaration is deficient. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION IS REQUIRED.

☐ Applicant MUST submit NEW FORMAL DRAWINGS

☐ because the originally filed drawings were declared by applicant to be informal.

☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948, attached hereto or to Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_, which has been approved by the examiner.

☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment/Comment.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the reverse side of the drawings. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.

☐ Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Any response to this letter should include, in the upper right hand corner, the APPLICATION NUMBER (SERIES CODE/SERIAL NUMBER). If applicant has received a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due, the ISSUE BATCH NUMBER and DATE of the NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE should also be included.

## Attachment(s)

☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

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## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

1. This communication is in response to the application filed 11/29/00.
2. Claims 1, 5, 6, 11, 14 and 17 have been amended as specified.
3. Claims 27 and 31-34 have been canceled as requested.
4. Claims 1-26 and 28-30 are allowed.
5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The claimed invention pertain to a trade-controlled system and method that employs a trading instrument having a fixed face value and two opposing sides that represent mutually exclusive outcomes regarding the subject matter of the trading instrument. The trading system comprises a host computer, a plurality of remote terminal, and telecommunications means connecting the host computer and the remote terminals.

The searches separately made by the Examiner and the Electronic Information Center on the databases of the USPTO, European Patent Office, Japanese Patent Office, Derwent, Microcomputer Software Guide from Reed Elsevier Inc., periodicals and magazines (e.g. The New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Business Week, Business Wire, Business & Industry,...), McGraw-Hill Publications, PR Newswire, World Reporter, INSPEC-IEEE, Inside Conferences, Internet & Personal Computer Abstracts, The Gale Group, and World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) do not show any patent or Non-Patent Literature regarding ideas, projects

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or applications of a apparatus as the object of the present invention. The following list identifies the most relevant prior art pertinent to the claimed inventions:

Lancaster (WO 97/39407) teaches an automated real time screen trading system operated by the investor using personal computers linked by a communication network to a central clearing house computer. This invention concerns a contract exchange and protocol, which provide direct entry to the market and the opportunity to trade 24 hours a day. Lancaster fails to teach the features that empowers individuals traders to buy and to sell contracts directly with each other, trader to trader, without any interference.

Midorikawa et al. (US Patent No. 5,832,462) teaches a system implemented on a general purpose computer used in processing transactions, established, manages and updates values of credit lines between individual customers and between group of other customers. Midorikawa does not disclose the use of a bid matching condition based upon a sum of opposing bids.

Richard et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,016,483) teaches a system for determining a set of opening prices for a number of series of options traded on an options exchange and for allocating public order imbalances at the opening of trading. Richard does not teach the features that empowers individuals traders to buy and to sell contracts directly with each other, trader to trader, without any interference.

Lawlor et al. (US Patent No. 5,220,501) teaches a system and method for the remote distribution of financial services connecting the terminals and a central computer operated by a service provider. The central computer transmits a message over a conventional ATM network

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debiting the user's bank account in real time, and may pay the specified payees the specified amount electronically or in other ways. Lawlor does not teach the use of a bid matching condition based upon a sum of opposing bids.

Thus, the Examiner considers the novelty of the invention to be a trade-controlled system and method that employs a trading instrument having a fixed face value and two opposing sides that represent mutually exclusive outcomes regarding the subject matter of the trading instrument, wherein individuals traders can buy and sell contracts directly with each other, trader to trader, without any interference.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Exr. Pedro R. Kanof whose telephone number is (703) 308-9552. The examiner can normally be reached on weekdays from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Vincent Millin, can be reached on (703) 308-1065. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-1396.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

PRK-3/2/01